Semi-annual summary of 2002 age-structure samples received at Panama City

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The Panama City Laboratory receives fish age structure samples (otoliths and spines) from several sampling agencies throughout the year. Those samples are recorded in a log and archived for future age-determination processing. The total number of ageing structures received from January 1st through August 6th, 2002 by the Panama City Laboratory was 13,808. This semi-annual total represents 41% (3,989) more otoliths compared to the semi-annual total of 2001. However, the 2001 semi-annual totals only included samples received through July 1st, one month less than the 2002 semi-annual total.

The total number of otoliths represents 45 species collected in 2002 compared to only 32 species received by mid-year in 2001. Another significant difference between semi-annual totals has been an increase in red snapper otoliths 2,572 (72%) received to date compared to the 2001 semi-annual total. Despite this increase in total otoliths, the ratio of commercial to recreational samples of red snapper has remained relatively consistent with the majority of samples representing the commercial fishery (91% commercial, 6% recreational in 2002 and 90%

commercial, 7% recreational in 2001). In addition, 1,254 (\sim 40%) more grouper samples have been collected thus far in 2002. Recreationally caught grouper samples increased from 3% of all grouper samples received in 2001 to 8% in 2002 while the commercial samples did not significantly change (94% in 2001 to 90% in 2002).

The amberjack sampling issue was addressed with an increase from 0 otoliths in 2001 to 20 otoliths in 2002. Slightly fewer (304) king and Spanish mackerel otoliths have been received this year compared to 2001. However, many samples collected by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries and Will Patterson at the University of South Alabama have not yet been received.

Table 1. All aging structures collected in 2002 by sampling program from Jan 1-August 6.

Species	TIP	НВ	MRFSS	MSLAB	PCLAB	Other	Total
Snappers							
Red *	5,866	32		153	68	23	6,142
Vermilion *	740	8		45	173	19	985
Yellowtail *	198			1	13	1	213
Gray *	145		25	_	30	12	212
Mutton *	49		-20		20	1	50
Lane *	98				28	4	130
Oueen	2				20	7	2
Silky *	31						31
	16						
Blackfin *							16
Cubera	1						1
Dog*	4						4
Cardinal Snapper *	3						3
Wenchman Snapper *	1						1
Groupers							
Gag *	1,246		56	1	18	37	1,358
Red *	1,251		14	15	192	196	1,668
Scamp *	820				39	51	910
Warsaw *	31				3	1	35
Snowy *	64					•	64
Yellowedge	162			12			174
	102			12			
Yellowfin							1
Yellowmouth*	8						8
Black *	35				1		36
Red Hind *	7						7
Rock hind *	14				1		15
Speckled Hind *	144			1	3	1	149
Graysby *	5						5
Misty *	1						1
Mackerels							
King Mackerel	618	3			245		866
Spanish Mackerel *	159	,			230		389
•	10)				230		20,
Porgies				6			6
Little Head Porgy	2.4			24	20		
Red Porgy	34			24	20		78
Jolthead Porgy *	1						1
Knob Head Porgy *				11			11
Other:							
Amberjack*	2		4	1	13		20
Blueline (Grey) Tile	1						1
Golden Tile *	87			1			88
Gray Trigger	64			21	12		97
Margate Grunt*	11						11
Wahoo *	3						3
Black Sea Bass *	3				1		1
				1	1		
Goldface Tilefish *	4			1			1
Oilfish *	1						1
Queen Triggerfish *	4				1		5
White Grunt *				4			4
White Trout *	4						4
Totals	11,932	43	99	297	1,091	346	13,808
Percents	86.4	0.3	0.7	2.2	7.9	2.5	
* Indicates the species whos	se 2002 semi-annu	al total exc	ceeds its 2001:	semi-annual s	sample size.		

Indicates the species whose 2002 semi-annual total exceeds its 2001 semi-annual sample size.

Key to Sources:

TIP= Trip Interview Program

HB= Beaufort Head Boat Survey

MRFSS= Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey

MSLAB= Pascagoula, Mississippi- National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory PCLAB= Panama City, Florida- National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory

Other= Florida State University and cooperative effort through E. Schmidt (commerical captain)

Table 2. All aging structures collected in 2002 by fishing mode and gear from Jan 1-August 6.

Snappers Red Vermilion Yellowtail Gray Mutton Lane	5,166 767 119 41	428 1			2		290 100	49 58		54 14	99 45	54			6,142
Vermilion Yellowtail Gray Mutton Lane	767 119				2							34			
Yellowtail Gray Mutton Lane	119														985
Gray Mutton Lane							47	20	46		1				213
Mutton Lane	41	54				1	91	10	10		5				212
Lane	2	48				•									50
	57	20					35	12	6						130
Queen	1	1					55		Ü						2
Silky	2	29													31
Blackfin	2	16													16
Cubera		1													1
		4													4
Dog Snapper		3													
Cardinal Wenchman Snapper		1													3 1
Groupers															
Gag	573	685					74	4		9	9	1		3	1,358
Red	352	1,073			1	1	175	43		8	14	1			1,668
Scamp	173	650					27	9	7		16	21		7	910
Warsaw	9	22					3			1					35
Snowy	33	31								•					64
Yellowedge	26	136										12			174
Yellowfin	20	1										12			1/7
Yellowmouth	4	3					1								8
	2														
Black		31					3								36
Red Hind	3	2					2								7
Rock hind	7	6					2								15
Speckled hind	9	136					3				1				149
Graysby	4							1							5
Misty		1													1
Mackerels															
King Mackerel	304	19	108	48			356	11	20						866
Spanish Mackerel	37			120			181	1	1	24			25		389
Porgies															
Little Head Porgy											6				6
Red Porgy	25	9					2	1		17	23	1			78
Jolthead Porgy		1													1
Knob Head Porgy											11				11
Other:															
Amberjack							15			4		1			20
Blueline (Grey) Tile	1														1
Golden Tile	24	63									1				88
Gray Trigger	24	14	3				17	2		16	21				97
Margate Grunt		11													11
Wahoo							3								3
Black Sea Bass											1				1
Goldface Tilefish											1				i
Oilfish		1													1
Queen Triggerfish		4					1								5
White Grunt		7					1				4				4
White Trout	4														4
Totals	7,769	3,505	111	168	3	2	1,428	201	90	147	258	91	25	10	13,808
Percents	56.3	25.4	0.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	10.3	1.5	0.7	1.1	1.9	0.7	0.2	0.1	
Key to Fishing Modes ar	nd Gear types														
		•													
CM HL = Commercial H															
CM LL = Commercial Lo															
CM GN = Commerical G	iill Net														
CM CN= Commercial C	ast Net														
CM SP= Commercial Sp	ear														
CM TR= Commercial Tr															
CP = Charter Party hand															
HB = Head Boat hand lir	ie														
PR = Private hand line															
PR = Private hand line SS HL = Scientific Surve	y Hand Line														
SS HL = Scientific Surve															
	y Trap														

Table 3. All ageing structures collected in 2002 by state from Jan 1- August 6.

Red	Total	TX	LA	MS	AL	FL	Species
Vermilion 851 4 55 75 5 Yellowtail 213 2 2 Gray 206 6 2 Mutton 50 10 10 Lane 120 10 10 Queen 2 2 2 Silky 31 Blackfin 16 Cubera 1 1 1 Dog 4 4 2 Cardinal Snapper 3 3 3 Wenchman Snapper 1 4 5 5 1,6 Cardinal Snapper 3 4		2	• (**	200	4.5-	.	Snappers
Yellowtail 213 Gray 206 6 Mutton 50 Lane 120 10 Queen 2 Silky 31 Blackfin 16 Cubera 1 Dog 4 Cardinal Snapper 3 Wenchman Snapper 1 Groupers Gag 1,347 1 5 5 1,4 Red 1,665 2 1 1,6 1,4 </td <td>6,142</td> <td>261</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	6,142	261					
Gray 206 6 6 22 Mutton 50	985		75	55	4		
Mutton 50 Lane 120 10 10 Lane 120 Queen 2 Silky 31 Blackfin 16 Cubera 1 Dog 4 Cardinal Snapper 3 Wenchman Snapper 1 Groupers Gag 1,347 1 5 5 1,3 Red 1,665 2 1 1,5 Scamp 854 20 17 19 9 Warsaw 29 1 5 Snowy 58 6 Yellowedge 143 12 19 1 Yellowfin 1 Yellowfin 1 Yellowmouth 8 Black 36 Red Hind 7 Rock hind 15 Speckled hind 149 Graysby 5 Misty 1 Mackerels King Mackerel 863 Spanish Mackerel 389 Porgies Little Head Porgy 1 Knob Head Porgy 1 Knob Head Porgy 11 Cother: Amberjack 19 1 Blueline (Grey) Tile 1 Golden Tile 88 Gray Trigger 91 Margate Grunt 11 Wahoo 3 Black Sea Bass 1	213						
Lane 120 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	212		6				Gray
Queen 2 Silky 31 Blackfin 16 Cubera 1 Dog 4 Cardinal Snapper 3 Wenchman Snapper 1 Groupers Gag 1,347 1 5 5 1,3 Red 1,665 2 1 19 9 15 1,2	50					50	Mutton
Silky 31 Blackfin 16 Cubera 1 1 1 Dog 4 4 4 Cardinal Snapper 3 3 4 Cardinal Snapper 3 4 4 Groupers Gag 1,347 1 5 5 1,3 Red 1,665 2 1 1 1 1 1 9 9 9 1 5 1,3 1	130		10			120	Lane
Blackfin	2					2	Queen
Cubera 1 Dog 4 Cardinal Snapper 3 Wenchman Snapper 1	31					31	Silky
Dog	16					16	Blackfin
Dog	1					1	Cubera
Cardinal Snapper 3 Wenchman Snapper 1	4					4	
Wenchman Snapper 1	3					3	
Groupers Gag 1,347 1 5 5 5 1,3 Red 1,665 2 1 1 1,4 Scamp 854 20 17 19 9 Warsaw 29 1 5 5 Snowy 58 6 Yellowedge 143 12 19 1 Yellowmouth 8 Black 36 Red Hind 7 Rock hind 15 Speckled hind 149 Graysby 5 Misty 1 Mackerels King Mackerel 863 3 3 8 Spanish Mackerel 389 Porgies Little Head Porgy 6 Red Porgy 70 1 7 Jolthead Porgy 11 Knob Head Porgy 11 Other: Amberjack 19 1 Blueline (Grey) Tile 1 Golden Tile 88 Gray Trigger 91 Margate Grunt 11 Wahoo 3 Black Sea Bass 1	1						
Gag 1,347 1 5 5 1,3 Red 1,665 2 1 1,6 Scamp 854 20 17 19 9 Warsaw 29 1 5 S Snowy 58 6 5 S Yellowedge 143 12 19 1 Yellowfin 1 1 12 19 1 Yellowfin 1 1 12 19 1 Yellowedge 143 12 19 1 Yellowfin 1 1 7 19 1 Yellowfin 1 1 7 19 1 1 Yellowfin 1 1 7 10 1	•					1	Weiterman Shapper
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Scamp	1,358		5				
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Yellowfin 1 Yellowmouth 8 Black 36 Red Hind 7 Rock hind 15 Speckled hind 149 Graysby 5 Misty 1 Mackerels King Mackerel 863 Spanish Mackerel 389 Porgies Little Head Porgy 6 Red Porgy 70 1 7 Jolthead Porgy 1 7 Jolthead Porgy 1 7 Jolthead Porgy 1 7 Blueline (Grey) Tile 1 6 Gray Trigger 91 1 5 1 Margate Grunt 11 Wahoo 3 3 8 3 3 Black Sea Bass 1 1 1 1 4 1 4 1 4 4 1 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	64						Snowy
Yellowmouth 8 Black 36 Red Hind 7 Rock hind 15 Speckled hind 149 Graysby 5 Misty 1 Mackerels King Mackerel 863 Spanish Mackerel 389 Porgies Little Head Porgy 6 Red Porgy 70 1 7 Jolthead Porgy 1 7 Jolthead Porgy 1 7 Other: Amberjack 19 1 Blueline (Grey) Tile 1 6 Gray Trigger 91 5 1 Margate Grunt 11 Wahoo 3 Black Sea Bass 1 1 1	174		19	12		143	
Black 36 Red Hind 7 Rock hind 15 Speckled hind 149 Graysby 5 Misty 1 Mackerels King Mackerel 863 Spanish Mackerel 389 Porgies Little Head Porgy 6 Red Porgy 70 1 7 Jolthead Porgy 1 Knob Head Porgy 11 Cother: Amberjack 19 1 Blueline (Grey) Tile 1 Golden Tile 88 Gray Trigger 91 Margate Grunt 11 Wahoo 3 Black Sea Bass 1	1					1	Yellowfin
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Goldface Tilefish 1	1						
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Queen Triggerfish 5	5					5	Queen Triggerfish
White Grunt 4	4						
White Trout 4	4		4				
Totals 10,145 144 491 2,763 265 13,5	13,808	265	2 763	401	144	10 145	Totals
Percents 73.5 1.0 3.6 20.0 1.9	15,000		20.0				